education ; and it is proposed to award both open and close scholarships solely on the ground of merit, to be adjudged on the basis of a comparative examination for English high schools and of the results of the English School Leaving Certificate and the Intermediate examinations for second grade and first grade colleges respectively. Provision has also been made in the scheme for a regional distribution of scholarships so far as second grade colleges and English high schools are concerned, so as to minimise the chances of a monopoly by educationally forward areas.

57. The total gross expenditure on education has risen from Rs. 25,83,442 to Rs. 35,21,497 and the net expenditure from Rs. 20,07,672 to Rs. 27,98,623 within the last four years, the rise in the percentage of the latter being 39·4.

58. Dr. T. Ganapati Sastri has been relieved of the work of the collection of Malayalam manuscripts and it has been entrusted to Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar, Secretary to Government, without prejudice to his regular duties. The publication of a selection of these manuscripts, under the designation of the *Śrî Mûlam Malayâḷam Series*, has been undertaken by him, and the first eight numbers of the series have been so far published.

Miscellaneous.

59. Devaswoms. A correct list of Sirkar Devaswoms was prepared for the first time in 1099 and published in the *Gazette*. According to this list, 129 of these Devaswoms are major, while the remaining 1,331 are either minor or petty. Under the provisions of the rules sanctioned by the Government in 1098 for the association of local inhabitants in the management of minor or petty Devaswoms, the management of 54 such Devaswoms has been assigned to private agencies up to the end of Vrischikam, 1100. The Devaswom Commissioner reports that the revival of such ancient arts associated with Devaswoms as *châkkiyârkûttu*, *tuḷḷal*, and *âṭṭam* is engaging his attention and that he proposes to make more methodical arrangements for the recital in Devaswoms of *itihâsas* and *purâṇas*. He also states that the legends and folklore connected with twenty-eight Devaswoms have been collected and that their publication in a suitable form is engaging his attention. With effect from Minam, 1099, the Government sanctioned the transfer of all Devaswom *porambokes*, including flower-gardens, *kaḷittaṭṭu* sheds, etc., to the Devaswom Department, and the question of utilising them to the best advantage of the institutions concerned is now under the consideration of the Devaswom Commissioner. As many as 119 Devaswom buildings have either been completely restored or are in process of restoration. Under the scheme for the restoration of minor Devaswoms under the contribution system, 40 Devaswoms were renovated till the end of Vrischikam, 1100, while 23 more are nearing completion. As a measure of relief to the tenants holding lands under the Pattazhi Devaswom, the Government have sanctioned the payment of half the rent in money at the commutation rate of 16 chackrams per *para* in the case of those tenants who pay the remaining half in kind.

60. Office Routine. Mr. V. Sekhara Menon, who was appointed as the Director of Office Systems to overhaul the system of Secretariat routine and record-keeping, worked for about a year from the 10th Kumbham, 1099. The records in the Secretariat which he had to deal with consisted of (i) old received and despatched letters kept in about 3,000 bundles, (ii) correspondence enclosed in covers numbering 15,000, (iii) about 1,50,000 open files dating from 1904 to 1921 in which year the disposal system was introduced, and (iv) the disposal files of 1921 and subsequent years. A special staff was given to him for the sorting and selection of the records for preservation and destruction; and before his relief, Mr. Sekhara Menon was able to examine all the bundles and covers, as also 75,000 open files, and to separate the important records among them for preservation. But the more valuable portion of his work consisted in the examination of the method of work in the Secretariat, the organisation of a central issue branch, and the suggestions for the simplification of Secretariat procedure. The balance of the work in connection with the Secretariat records has been entrusted to an officer who has been trained by Mr. Sekhara Menon.

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